

THE NEW COVENANT LIFE

Lesson 13 for June 26, 2021

Jesus established the new covenant with his blood. this covenant is real, it is not something theoretical, a philosophical doctrine, or just a lesson.

This covenant with God transforms our lives and renews us.

What does the new covenant bring to our lives?





- Joy.
- Liberation from guilt.
- New thoughts.
- The hope of eternal life.
- A mission.





JOY

"And these things we write to you that your joy may be full." (1 John 1:4)

Jesus promised we will enjoy full joy after His Second Coming (Mt. 25:21). But the joy of the new covenant is something we can enjoy today. It is an integral part of the Kingdom of God now (Rom. 14:17), and part of the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22). This joy is not brief happiness, but inner peace.



The 70 were filled with joy when they shared the Gospel (Lk. 10:17). Anyone who accepts the gospel is filled with joy too (1Ths. 1:6).

Just believing in Jesus is enough to receive that joy (1P. 1:8). As the apostle John explained, the source of our joy is to meditate on the life, the death, and the resurrection of Jesus, and to have a personal relationship with God (1Jn. 1:3-4).





LIBERATION FROM

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit." (Romans 8:1)

No one can deny that everyone has sinned (Rom. 3:23; 1Jn. 1:8). However, Jesus forgives all our sins through his blood in the new covenant (1Jn. 1:7).

Therefore, we are free from the burden of guilt. God liberates us from sin and from remorse. If God forgets our sins, shouldn't we do the same? (Jer. 31:34).

This does not mean that we should deny our sins. Since Jesus paid for our sins, we no longer live under their condemnation (Rev. 1:5).



NEW THOUGHTS

"And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him." (1 John 4:16)



Our thoughts and feelings are transformed when we <u>know</u> the love of God and <u>believe</u> in it. We are given a new heart, and a new way of thinking and feeling (Ez. 36:26; Jer. 31:33).

The Law of God is written on our hearts, and our thoughts are filled of love towards God and our neighbors (Mr. 12:30-31).



When Christ lives in our hearts, our faith and our understanding of God's love grow. We are filled with all the fullness of God, so we are ready to reflect Christ (Eph. 3:17-19; 2Co. 3:18).





THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

(John 11:25-26)

There are two deaths: the first death which everyone will suffer (Gn. 3:19), and the second death which is eternal. There will be no resurrection from the second death. Only those who are not registered in the "book of life" will suffer it; that is, those who decided not to believe in Jesus (Rev. 20:15).



Jesus assures us that we will not suffer the eternal death. This hope impacts the way we live today. Our perspective is different when we understand that the grave is not our end, but eternal life is. We begin to enjoy eternal life when we open our hearts to Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

A MISSION



"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)





Accepting God's covenant and becoming part of his chosen people involves a mission: to announce the Gospel.

Joy, liberation from guilt, new thoughts, the hope of eternal life... We should not keep these things for ourselves but share them!

This is a mission with eternal repercussions. It can change the destiny of those who hear the news. It is news "of life leading to life" (2Co. 2:16).

"Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice." (Philippians 1:18).





"As through Jesus we enter into rest, heaven begins here. We respond to His invitation, Come, learn of Me, and in thus coming we begin the life eternal. Heaven is a ceaseless approaching to God through Christ. The longer we are in the heaven of bliss, the more and still more of glory will be opened to us; and the more we know of God, the more intense will be our happiness. As we walk with Jesus in this life, we may be filled with His love, satisfied with His presence."